



## THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO **MANAGER'S REPORT**

DATE ISSUED: July 28, 2000

REPORT NO. 00-157

ATTENTION: Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee  
Agenda of August 2, 2000

SUBJECT: San Diego Police Department Juvenile Programs

### SUMMARY

THIS IS AN INFORMATION ITEM ONLY. NO ACTION IS REQUIRED ON THE PART OF THE COMMITTEE OR THE CITY COUNCIL.

### BACKGROUND

The Public Safety & Neighborhood Services Committee directed the City Manager to have the Police Department prepare a report describing the Department's juvenile programs, including the fiscal impact and evaluation process used for each program.

### DISCUSSION

#### C SCHOOL TASK FORCE

Description: Each Area Command Juvenile Services Team has officers assigned to handle law enforcement issues at all secondary schools within the Commands geographic boundaries. The officers' primary responsibilities include being a uniformed law enforcement presence on school campuses and taking appropriate actions to prevent, or respond to, criminal activity. Officers work with the school staff and administrators to provide a safe learning environment for the students.

The officers are also available as an educational resource to the schools. When appropriate, officers conduct classroom presentations and discussions with students about safety topics and the criminal justice system.

Goals: To provide a safe learning environment through a law enforcement presence in and around secondary schools in the City of San Diego.

To provide classroom/school presentations upon request.

Children Affected: Students attending all secondary schools within the City of San Diego.

Success Rate: This program has existed since the mid 1970's. Success is difficult to measure; however, the presence of uniformed officers on school campuses helps to reduce violence.

Estimated Cost: 22 officers with collateral duties are assigned to STF.

Juvenile Service Team Staff Cost: \$66,884.00 per month

## C SCHOOL SAFETY PATROL

Description: Each Area Command Juvenile Services Team has officers assigned to work the School Safety Patrol (SSP) program. The primary responsibility of these officers is to facilitate traffic safety around elementary schools by coordinating the efforts of student SSP members, teaching classes on traffic safety, and taking appropriate enforcement action. Officers provide SSP members with training, equipment and resources. They also attend the weekly patrol meetings at each school.

The officers are also assigned to provide bicycle safety programs (Bicycle Rodeo), pedestrian safety programs (Kids and Skids), stranger danger presentations (Officer Bill) and other safety presentations for grades one through five.

In agreement with San Diego Unified School District, the Police Department is in the process of developing substance abuse, personal safety, and gang and violence prevention components for this program with the intent of expanding its use in the lower grades and replacing the current fifth grade Life Skills program.

Goals: To provide safety education for elementary age students..

To build positive relationships between school age children and police officers.

Children Affected: All elementary school students, including the approximately 2200

student School Safety Patrol members who assist at the SSP crosswalks each school day.

Success Rate: 100% success rate in traffic safety since 1935, as there have been no fatalities in SSP crosswalks. This program also included personal safety, violence prevention and substance abuse training prior to the implementation of the D.A.R.E. Program.

Estimated Cost: 29 officers with other collateral duties are assigned to SSP.

Juvenile Service Team Staff Cost: \$ 30,909.00 per month

Juvenile Administration Staff Cost: \$ 6,782.00 per month

Associated Cost: \$150,000.00 per year \*

\*Includes cost for SSP supplies (jackets, hats, stop signs, flags, poles, insignias and rain gear) SSP Holiday Party and SSP camp.

#### C DRUG AWARENESS RESISTANCE EDUCATION (D.A.R.E.)

Description: Each Area Command Juvenile Services Team has officers that have been trained to teach the DARE curriculum, which is a 17 week program focused on teaching students how to resist involvement in drugs and violence. The content of the program is directed by D.A.R.E. America, Inc.

The DARE program is taught primarily in the fifth grade. It is also being taught at a few selected middle schools within the San Diego Unified School District.

Goal: To provide students with the knowledge and skills to resist drug abuse and peer pressure.

Children Affected: Most fifth grade students, based on officer staffing and available classroom time.

Success Rate: Studies of the program's effectiveness are conflicting. Some state DARE is effective, while others state it is ineffective. Recent reports studying the long term effectiveness of the program are now being published. They will be evaluated by both the San Diego Unified School District and the Police Department. The Department is committed to continuing the DARE program until a viable alternative is available and has been successfully tested.

Estimated Cost: Juvenile Service Team Staff Cost: \$56,750.00 per month

C LIFE SKILLS

Description: In September of 1999, the Police Department entered into a partnership with the San Diego Unified School District to implement a pilot program in the fifth grades of 13 elementary schools using the Life Skills Program developed by Professor Gilbert Botvin. The Life Skills Program was tested as a possible replacement program for the DARE Program.

The course introduces students to the skills required in making good decisions, while demonstrating the consequences of making bad decisions. It also teaches cognitive behavioral skills that increase students' self esteem and awareness of the dangers of using tobacco, alcohol and drugs. The curriculum is eight weeks long.

In June of 2000, representatives of the Police Department and the San Diego Unified School District met and agreed that this program was not working well. An agreement was reached to move this program to the middle school level and have it taught by certified teachers instead of police officers, as Professor Botvin intended in his original design. The Police Department agreed to enhance the School Safety Patrol Program, as previously described, for use in the elementary schools beginning in January of 2001.

Goal: To provide elementary age students with alternatives to drug abuse and peer pressure.

Children Affected: Approximately 650 in selected schools.

Success Rate: This was a pilot program in San Diego that did not work as well as anticipated for a variety of reasons. A three year study of its use in other school districts has shown it to be successful when it is taught at the appropriate level, by teachers, as part of a literacy program.

Estimated Cost: Four officers with collateral duties were assigned to Life Skills.

Juvenile Service Team Staff Cost: \$ 488.00 per month

Training Cost: \$1,892.00\*

\*This cost was a one time expenditure for starting the program. The cost included a 16 hour training session for four officers.

C COORDINATED AGENCY NETWORK (C.A.N.)/COMMUNITY RESPONSE OFFICER PROGRAM

Description: The C.A.N. program was a partnership between the Police Department and the San Diego County Probation Department. The mission of the program was to lower the juvenile crime rate and redirect juveniles to a more productive lifestyle. This was accomplished by coordinating the efforts of both agencies in monitoring juvenile offenders and educating them and their parents about the Juvenile Justice System.

C.A.N. was a grant funded pilot program implemented in the Police Department's Southern Division. It began in January of 1997, with 80 ?low risk? juvenile wards being assigned to a probation officer working out of the Southern Division police station. Several patrol officers were assigned to also make contact with the wards and their families on a regular basis.

This program proved to be quite effective. A modified version named the Community Response Officer Program is currently being expanded to each of the Police Department's Area Commands and to selected Sheriff's Department Stations. The Probation Department has agreed to assign probation officers to work at the police stations with the officers and share Juvenile Probation Department data and resources with them. In turn, the Police Department has agreed to provide work space for the probation officers and work closely with them in monitoring juvenile offenders.

Goals: To protect the community through increased supervision of Juvenile Court wards.

To promote wards' compliance with court-ordered conditions of probation.

To strengthen working relationships between police officers, probation officers and the community.

To provide intervention and guidance to juveniles through increased supervision and mentoring.

To refer wards and their families to appropriate community-based programs to assist in developing lawful, healthy, productive lifestyles.

Children Affected: 195 juvenile offenders were monitored in the C.A.N. pilot program. The Community Response Officer Program began implementation in July of 2000. The number of juvenile offenders that will be monitored has yet to be determined.

Success Rate: The success rate is based on recidivism. The results of the C.A.N.pilot program are currently being evaluated by a state agency. They will be known in a few months. The preliminary findings appear to show the program as being highly successful.  
Estimated Cost: Staff Cost: \$4,394.00 per month

#### C GANG VIOLENCE REDUCTION PROJECT(G.V.R.P.)

Description: The Gang Violence Reduction Project is a partnership between the Police Department, Social Advocates for Youth (S.A.Y. San Diego), Mediation and Restitution Services (M.A.R.S.), and Partners in Prevention (P.I.P.)

The Police Department received a grant for this program from the California Youth Authority. It is designed to present a multifaceted, school based, early gang prevention and intervention system in a highly populated gang community. The project focuses on common themes including community restorative justice, problem solving partnerships, and maximizing resources through risk assessment. The target site for the grant is in Central Division's area command.

Goals: To reduce gang violence through the early intervention of at-risk youth.

To provide services dealing with mediation and conflict resolution of early gang conflicts.

To provide family mediation and mediation training for youth and adults.

Children Affected: Approximately 1,177 students from Memorial Junior High, Kimbrough Elementary, King Elementary, Perkins Elementary and Logan Elementary.

Success Rate: Data is currently being collected on this program.

Estimated Cost: Staff Cost: \$1,110.00 per month for Sergeant \*

The State grant pays for the funding of the program and the cost of one police officer to serve as the program coordinator.

\* The Juvenile Services Team sergeant supervises the grant on a part time basis.

## C SAN DIEGO POLICE CADET PROGRAM

**Description:** The Police Cadet Program is an unpaid, co-ed, non-enforcement, entry level introduction to law enforcement as a career for young adults between 16 and 24 years old. The cadets participate in ride alongs with patrol officers and perform varying functions at emergency and community events, such as crowd and traffic control. College age cadets may also gain valuable work experience serving in unpaid internships within the Police Department.

**Goals:** To introduce young adults to law enforcement as a possible career.

To develop leadership skills in young adults.

**Children Affected:** Approximately 70 young adults per year.

**Success Rate:** Several cadets have been hired by local law enforcement agencies, including the San Diego Police Department. Feedback has also been received from past cadets regarding how the training received in the program has greatly assisted them in their chosen careers.

**Estimated Cost:** Staff Cost: \$3,850.00 per month

Yearly, cadets volunteer an average of 7,000 hours of community service. These services result in an approximate savings of \$108,500 to the City.

## C EVERY 15 MINUTES

**Description:** This program consists of a partnership between the Police Department, the Fire Department, the San Diego Unified School District, Children's Hospital, Mothers Against Drunk Driving and the Medical Examiner's Office. The two-day program challenges high school juniors and seniors to think about the consequences of drinking alcohol and driving, personal safety, and the responsibility of making

mature decisions when lives are involved.

**Goal:** To reduce the number of fatal and injury car collisions caused by teenagers driving or riding in a car with a driver under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs.

**Children Affected:** Over 2,000 juniors and seniors from Point Loma, Mira Mesa and Clairemont High Schools. The City Access Channel has also repeatedly aired a one hour video of the Point Loma High School program. The viewing audience is in excess of 335,000 people. Plans are underway to conduct this program at several additional schools.

**Success Rate:** Since the presentations at Point Loma, Mira Mesa and Clairemont High Schools, there have been no serious injury or fatal alcohol or drug related collisions by students from those schools.

**Estimated Cost:** Staff Cost: \$4,457.00 per session

Associated Cost: \$8,000.00 \*

\* includes cost of accident construction, supplies, costumes, make up and equipment. This cost is paid for through a grant and private contributions from community based organizations.

## C CITY OF SAN DIEGO PEER COURT

**Description:** This program is a partnership between the Mayor's Office, the City Attorney's Office, the San Diego Unified School District, the Public Defender's Office and the Police Department. First time nonviolent juvenile offenders are referred to a trial like setting with other juveniles serving as prosecutors, defenders, and jury as part of a diversion program. The program is designed to reduce the recidivism rate.

**Goals:** To educate students in the San Diego Unified School District regarding the Criminal Justice System and the consequences of criminal behavior.

To reduce juvenile crime in the City of San Diego.

**Children Affected:** Approximately 2,470 students have received Peer Court training. Approximately 1,050 students have participated in Peer Court as



attorneys, bailiffs, court clerks or jurors. Approximately 44 juveniles have been referred to Peer Court as defendants.

The following schools participated in the 1999/2000 school year:

Point Loma High School	Kearny High School
Madison High School	San Diego High School
Lincoln High School	Hoover High School

Success Rate: Of the 44 defendants referred to Peer Court, only one has been rearrested for a crime. That makes the success rate 97.7%.

Estimated Cost: Staff Cost: \$ 795.00 per month

This includes Juvenile Service Team training, student training, computer tracking research and staff meetings with the Mayor's Office, City Attorney's Office and school administrators.

## C KIDZWATCH ACADEMY

Description: This program is a partnership with the Police Department, Fire Department, City Lifeguards, Park Rangers, and the Neighborhood Watch program. The focus is to prepare children for emergency situations and teach them how to stay safe.

Kidzwatch is for children five to eleven years old. It is an eight-week session held on Saturdays. Training is provided in the following areas: stranger danger, fire safety, bike safety, use of 9-1-1, water safety, nature awareness, community volunteering and neighborhood watch.

Goals: To teach children crime prevention techniques, how to handle emergency situations, and how to avoid becoming a victim.

Children Affected: Approximately 900 children have participated in Kidzwatch.

Success Rate: Written and verbal feedback from children and parents have indicated there are significant benefits from participation in this program.

Estimated Cost: Staff Cost \$1,126.00 per month\*

\*This cost reflects the salary cost to the department based on 10 hours per week.

C RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PILOT PROJECT

Description: This program is designed to refer diversionary cases to community-based agencies that use the Restorative Justice model. The program includes collaboration with the community, victim, juvenile offender and the offender's family in determining an appropriate consequence.

Goals: To reduce the recidivism rate of first time offenders.

To reduce juvenile crime in the City of San Diego.

Children Affected: Since September of 1998, 44 juveniles have been in the program.

Success Rate: The success rate is 97.7%. The success rate is based on recidivism to date.

Estimated Cost: Juvenile Services Team Staff Cost: \$ 86.00 per month  
Training Cost: \$400.00\*

\*This cost was a one time expenditure for starting the program. The cost included training sessions for JST and meetings with the directors of the two Community Based Organizations.

Respectfully submitted,

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David Bejarano  
Chief of Police

BEJARANO/GD

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Approved: Michael T. Uberuaga  
City Manager